



"Working to make Indiana businesses clean and safe, and wages fair and competitive."

**MITCHELL E. DANIELS, Jr., GOVERNOR**  
*Lori A. Torres, Commissioner*

402 West Washington St., Room W195  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2751

Phone: (317) 232-2655  
Fax (317) 233-3790

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Quin Cheatham**  
**Phone: 317.232.2683**

### **Indiana Department of Labor Partners with Messer Harmon to Sign Construction Agreement**

**Indianapolis, IN November 30, 2006** – The Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL) has signed a construction partnership agreement with Messer Harmon, LLC for the construction expansion of the Argosy Casino owned by Penn National Gaming in Lawrenceburg, Indiana.

IDOL, specifically IOSHA and INSafe, will work directly with Messer Harmon, LLC to address the safety and health issues during the construction of the \$310 million expansion of the Argosy Casino. This collaborative effort allows IDOL to leverage its resources to reach a greater number of employers and employees more consistently, effectively and efficiently.

This event displays the dedicated and continued effort of IDOL to the businesses and workers of the state. "This partnership is the type of hands on, proactive involvement that is necessary to ensure safety awareness on construction projects," says IDOL Commissioner Lori A. Torres. "It is an example of government and private enterprise working together toward the ultimate goal: a safe working environment."

This is the fourth official IDOL partnership on a site-specific construction project. Previous and ongoing partnerships include: Duke Realty and Simon Properties, Hunt Construction Group, Inc. in association with Smoot Construction/Mezzetta Construction, Inc. on the Stadium project, and Hunt-Smoot Midfield Builders in a Joint Venture with Turner Aviation-Trotter Construction on the new midfield airport terminal project. The goal is the same in this project: to ensure safe working conditions for all involved in the project. Each signing partner has agreed on specific responsibilities.

Messer Harmon, LLC is managing the construction project. "Part of managing a project is to grow the safety culture. It doesn't matter what color hard hat you wear when it comes to work place safety. This team is eager to commit resources to improving safety and commit to these partnerships," said Alison Muth, Messer Construction Co.'s safety, health and environmental vice president. Messer Harmon has identified strategies within their own entities and established performance measures to verify results. IDOL is also providing technical assistance and training through its consultation program: INSafe.

Not only is this an expansion of safety partnerships in Indiana, but it is also an expansion of jobs. During the construction of the expansion, between 2,000 and 3,000 construction workers will be employed. The project goal for MBE/WBE participation is to exceed 10% MBE participation and to exceed 5% WBE participation. All MBE/WBE companies will be Indiana certified.

The signing of this partnership is an effort to bring all involved parties together to ensure the safest working conditions possible for the workers of Indiana. For more information on this or other IDOL programs, please contact Quin Cheatham at 317.232.2683.

###